



Tintwistle Rural District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1896.





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# TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

*To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Rural District  
Council of Tintwistle.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report of the health and sanitary condition of your District for the past year, together with the usual statistics of sickness and mortality on the forms A and B supplied by the Local Government Board.

POPULATION.—Census 1891, 2,576. Estimated to middle of 1896, 2,630.

BIRTH-RATE.—During the year ending December 31st, 1896, 61 births have been registered (31 males and 30 females), being equivalent to a birth-rate of 23.1 per 1,000 inhabitants, as compared with 73 births and a birth-rate of 27.7 per 1,000 in the year 1895.

The following table shows the number of births and the birth-rate for the past 5 years :—

Year.	No. of Births.	Rate per 1,000	Population.
1892	64	24.4	2,576
1893	77	29.2	2,630
1894	62	23.5	2,630
1895	73	27.7	2,630
1896	61	23.1	2,630



DEATH-RATE.—The number of deaths at all ages and from all causes during the year was 42 (23 males and 19 females), and is equivalent to a death-rate of 15.9 per 1,000 of the population, as against 34 deaths and a death-rate of 12.5 per 1,000 for the preceding year.

Eight deaths occurred to children under one year, the rate being equivalent to 3 per 1,000 inhabitants, or 131 out of every 1,000 registered births.

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate since 1892 :—

Year	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality under 1 Year.	Rate per 1,000	Population.
1892	40	15.5	13	5	2,576
1893	65	24.7	12	4.5	2,630
1894	35	13.3	13	4.9	2,630
1895	34	12.5	6	2.2	2,630
1896	42	15.9	8	3	2,630

Of the total number of deaths registered during the year 1896 8 occurred to children under 1 year, 5 between 1 and 5, 5 between 5 and 15, 3 between 15 and 25, 11 between 25 and 65, and 10 to persons above 65 years.

Six deaths were due to heart disease, and six to inflammatory diseases of the respiratory organs, such as bronchitis, pneumonia, etc., whilst phthisis caused 2 deaths.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES. — The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 11, viz. :—Scarlatina 3, diphtheria 1, membranous croup 1, typhoid fever 3, puerperal fever 1, and erysipelas 2.

The deaths from diseases of this class were 5 (including 1 from measles and 1 from whooping cough), being equivalent to a death-rate of 1.9 per 1,000.

**PUERPERAL FEVER.**—One case of this disease occurred at Arnfield-lane, in February, and proved fatal. The person had not been in good health for some time previous, and this probably predisposed her to the onset of the fever. This case was attended by a midwife, and I gave her instructions as to personal disinfection, and advised her to discontinue attending any more cases for a few weeks.

**TYPHOID.**—Of the three cases of this disease one occurred at Newton Square. The main drain from some property above passes under the floor of this house, and there is an open grid communicating with it near the back door. This is a most insanitary condition, and should be remedied by taking the drainage outside the premises. The second case was at Shopwell Farm, in Hattersley. The surroundings and drainage of this house were much neglected. As this person supplied milk to a number of inhabitants in Hyde, I advised the complete isolation of the case from the person in charge of the dairy, the sale of milk to be stopped, or a temporary dairy used away from the house, which was strictly carried out, and the intestinal discharges disinfected, and buried in an adjoining field.

The third case was also at Hattersley, but in this instance I was unable to trace the cause.

**SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.**—Only four cases of this disease, of a very mild character, came under my observation during the year. The first of these was in Old-road, in July, and as far as I could trace was contracted in Hadfield, where scarlet fever was prevalent at the time. This resulted in a second case occurring in the same block of buildings, and two others a short distance from the former ones. One of the two latter was reported as diphtheria, but as scarlet fever was in the house I think that

the so-called diphtheria was probably scarlet fever without eruption, and not true diphtheria, and have included it as such.

**ERYSIPELAS.**—Two cases of erysipelas were notified in September and December, one at Tintwistle and the other at Hattersley. This disease is usually connected with insanitary surroundings, such as defective drainage, overcrowding, want of proper ventilation, and uncleanness generally, but these cases proved the exception of the rule, as the sanitary conditions of surroundings were particularly good, and the premises clean and well ventilated.

**MEMBRANOUS CROUP.**—One case following measles occurred in Hattersley, in November, and proved fatal.

**MEASLES.**—An epidemic of this disease, similar to that which visited the district in the early part of 1893, occurred in the latter part of December. The outbreak was part of a very wide spread epidemic covering a wide area, including the surrounding townships of Hadfield, Glossop, Dinting, and Hollingworth. The disease, although not of a very virulent type generally, caused several deaths, which were principally due to complications, such as pneumonia and acute bronchitis. The attendances at the schools were becoming largely affected, and as there appeared no prospect of checking the disease by other means, I advised the closing of the day and Sunday schools for several weeks, which I think resulted in a certain amount of success.

**WATER SUPPLY.**—The water supply has been abundant and good.

**NOXIOUS TRADES.**—There are no noxious trades carried on in the district—no common lodging houses, no milk shops, the milk being supplied from farms in the adjoining neighbourhood.

**GENERAL SANITARY WORK.**—Your Inspector has attended to a number of nuisances during the year, such as full middens and closets, removal of cesspools, and the overflowing of sewage from defective and choked drains. Some new slopstone pipes



with trapped gullies have been put in, in places where the old ones were found to be defective and untrapped. Periodical inspections of the district have been made by your Inspector and myself, including slaughter-houses and dwelling-houses, etc., and particularly of those parts requiring most attention.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. S. BURNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.





